

# CHAGRIN RIVER WATERSHED

## OHIO

**Project Name:** Sulphur Springs Assessment and Restoration Project

**Project Type:**

- Restoration (Channel and Riparian)

**Project Description:** The Chagrin River watershed is home to some of the last relict populations of native Ohio brook trout, dating back to the last glaciations over 10,000 years ago. Sulphur Springs, a designated cold-water stream that drains into the Chagrin River and ultimately Lake Erie, once supported a population of Quebec brook trout. This project will restore a segment of Sulphur Springs that was impounded in the 1930's and the dam has since breached.



*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

This segment of stream is entrenched and the higher velocity stream flows have scoured the narrow channel down to shale bedrock, providing little to no habitat. Furthermore, the stream corridor does not have a forested riparian area, causing warming temperatures in this segment and downstream, fragmenting coldwater habitat in this tributary. Through restoration and monitoring, this project will assess the stream as a suitable potential reintroduction site for the state threatened native Ohio brook trout and other coldwater habitat species. The project will also be used to develop an education campaign and help formulate recommendations for residents and communities to promote and improve coldwater stream habitat in Sulphur Springs and throughout the Chagrin River watershed.

**Lead Federal Agency:**

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Non-Federal Partners:**

- State of Ohio
- Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc.
- Cleveland Metroparks
- Emerald Necklace Chapter of Trout Unlimited

**Outcomes for 2012:**

- Complete habitat suitability study
- Construct and complete stream restoration and riparian planting